

Message Text

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ORIGIN OES-07

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DRAFTED BY OES/OFA/OCA:MDBUSBY:CS A
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EA/ANP-MR. HURWITZ
L/OES-MR. COLSON

-----052004 021609Z /75

O 021525Z JUN 78 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO HICOMTERPACIS SAIPAN MARIANA ISLANDS NIACT IMMEDIATE 0106

UNCLAS STATE 139787

HICOMTERPACIS PASS LNO STATUS

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: EFIS, PLOS

SUBJECT: SOUTH PACIFIC REGIONAL FISHERIES ORGANIZATION

REQUEST PASS FOLLOWING LETTER ON URGENT BASIS TO:

LEADERSHIP OF CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA
MARSHALLS POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION
PALAU POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION

DEAR :

AS YOU MAY BE AWARE, THE UNITED STATES HAS BEEN INVITED
TO A RESUMPTION OF THE NEGOTIATIONS BEGUN LAST NOVEMBER
IN SUVA AIMED TOWARD DRAFTING A CONVENTION TO ESTABLISH
A SOUTH PACIFIC REGIONAL FISHERIES ORGANIZATION (SPRFO).
THIS RESUMED MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE JUNE 5-10 AT SPEC
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HEADQUARTERS IN SUVA.

IN THE ORIGINAL INVITATION TO THE NOVEMBER MEETING, THE
SOUTH PACIFIC GOVERNMENTS EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT VARIOUS
NON-INDEPENDENT ENTITIES, INCLUDING MICRONESIA, COULD BE
ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MEETING THROUGH MEMBERSHIP
ON THE VARIOUS DELEGATIONS OF THE ADMINISTERING AUTHORI-

TIES. AS YOU WILL RECALL, THE UNITED STATES INVITED, AMONG OTHERS, THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA, THE MARSHALL

ISLANDS NITIJELA, AND THE PALAU DISTRICT LEGISLATURE TO NOMINATE PERSONS TO BE MEMBERS OF THE US DELEGATION. THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA TOOK EXCEPTION TO THIS ARRANGEMENTS, AND HAVE SUBSEQUENTLY EXPRESSED THEIR POSITION SEPARATELY IN A VARIETY OF WAYS.

CIRCUMSTANCES HAVE CHANGED SINCE THE ORIGINAL U.S. INVITATION. MOST NOTABLY, THE HILO STATEMENT ESTABLISHED THE PRINCIPLE THAT MICRONESIANS WILL, IN THE POST-TRUSTEESHIP PERIOD, HAVE AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEIR FOREIGN AFFAIRS INCLUDING MARINE RESOURCES. THIS BEING SO, EVEN THOUGH A COMPACT HAS NOT YET BEEN SIGNED, IT SEEMS APPROPRIATE THAT FIRST STEPS NOW BE TAKEN TOWARD ESTABLISHING MICRONESIA'S FUTURE INTERNATIONAL ROLE.

I WILL BE LEADING THE U.S. DELEGATION TO THE RESUMED SPRFO NEGOTIATIONS. WHILE I WOULD BE PLEASED TO HAVE MICRONESIAN REPRESENTATION ON THE U.S. DELEGATION, I WOULD FULLY UNDERSTAND AND SUPPORT MICRONESIANS' DESIRES TO REPRESENT THEMSELVES IN THEIR DEALINGS WITH THEIR PACIFIC COLLEAGUES. THE UNITED STATES WILL THEREFORE BE PREPARED TO SUPPORT SEPARATE OBSERVER STATUS FOR MICRONESIANS AT THE SUVA MEETING. ALTERNATIVELY, THE UNCLASSIFIED

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UNITED STATES WOULD ALSO BE WILLING TO SUPPORT OBSERVER STATUS FOR THOSE MICRONESIAN GROUPS WHO SO DESIRE IT AND ACCEPT AS MEMBERS OF THE U.S. DELEGATION THOSE OTHER MICRONESIAN GROUPS SO DESIRING, PROVIDING THAT NO MICRONESIAN GROUP INTERPOSES ANY OBJECTION TO THE REPRESENTATIONAL STATUS OF ANY OTHERS.

YOU WILL UNDERSTAND THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL NOT PERMIT ITSELF TO BE PUT IN THE POSITION OF DECIDING WHAT THE INDIVIDUAL REPRESENTATIONAL STATUS OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA AND THE MARSHALLESE AND PALAUAN GROUPS SHOULD BE ON THE EVE OF A REFERENDUM AT WHICH THE MICRONESIAN PEOPLES WILL DECIDE THAT ISSUE FOR THEMSELVES. AN EXPRESSION OF U.S. SUPPORT FOR MICRONESIAN OBSERVER STATUS AT SUVA IS THEREFORE CONTINGENT UPON AGREEMENT AMONG SUCH GROUPS AS TO WHAT THEIR INDIVIDUAL OR COLLECTIVE REPRESENTATIONAL STATUS SHOULD BE, PENDING THE EMERGENCE OF A POPULAR MANDATE FROM THE REFERENDUM.

SHOULD THE MICRONESIAN GROUPS PROVE UNABLE TO ARRIVE AT A COMMON POSITION ON THE ISSUE OF THEIR REPRESENTATIONAL STATUS, THE UNITED STATES WILL NONETHELESS SUPPORT ATTEND-

ANCE AT THE SUVA MBETING BY THOSE MICRONESIAN REPRESENT-
ATIVES NOT DESIRING TO BECOME MEMBERS OF THE U.S.
DELEGATION, EVEN THOUGH WE COULD NOT SUPPORT OFFICIAL

RECOGNITION AS OBSERVERS AT THIS TIME. IN THIS CASE,
WE WOULD EXPLAIN THE REASONS FOR SUCH REPRESENTATIONAL
ARRANGEMENTS, IF IT SEEMED APPROPRIATE. THIS WOULD
ENSURE THAT THE MICRONESIAN REPRESENTATIVES ATTENDING
IN THIS STATUS COULD BE FULLY CONSULTED BY OTHER PARTICI-
PANTS.

YOU ARE ASKED URGENTLY TO CONSIDER THIS MATTER AND TO
COMMUNICATE TO ME YOUR DECISION. I WILL BE AVAILABLE
IN SUVA ON JUNE 4 FOR CONSULTATION SHOULD YOU SO DESIRE.
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FOR OBVIOUS REASONS, I BELIEVE IT WOULD BE TO OUR MUTUAL
ADVANTAGE IF THE UNITED STATES COULD INDICATE TO OTHER
PARTICIPATING GOVERNMENTS OUR POSITION ON THIS MATTER
AT THE OPENING OF THE MEETING ON JUNE 5.

SINCERELY,

MORRIS D. BUSBY

CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Enclosure: n/a
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Format: TEL
From: STATE
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Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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Subject: SOUTH PACIFIC REGIONAL FISHERIES ORGANIZATION REQUEST PASS FOLLOWING LETTER ON URGENT BASIS TO:
LEADERSHIP OF CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA
TAGS: EFIS, PLOS, US, TQ, XP, (BUSBY, MORRIS D)
To: HICOMTERPACIS SAIPAN
Type: TE
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20 Mar 2014
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